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FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE FARAGUAY BUREAU ASUNCION, PARAGUAY

5400-89 1 January 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Paraguay Bureau -- December 1988

I. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Much of the bureau's attention this month focused on the military uprising in Argentina and its aftermath. At its height, the uprising required round-the-clock coverage, so the <u>bureau operated</u> special midnight and Sunday morning shifts on 4 December. Throughout December the <u>bureau continued</u> reporting on related events, including a speech by Argentine President Alfonsin and the resignation of Armed Forces Chief of Staff Caridi.

Jours

- 2. On 9 December Radio Moscow in Spanish to Chile began broadcasting a 12-part report on the PCCh document calling for the 15th national congress of the PCCh. The bureau filed the text of the entire report in over 30 takes.
- 3. Peru's APRA party congress, which opened on 16 December, resulted in the bureau's filing several immediate and priority items. Peruvian President Garcia's speech to the congress and the report on Garcia's resignation as party president were among the items filed.

B. Cruising

- 1. The cruising monitor observed and reported on the following:
- a. Portugal International Service in English was cruised as part of the bureau's continuing checks of its ability to backstop London Bureau: the 0230-0300 GMT cast was heard with poor reception on 11840 $\,$ kHz and 9705 $\,$ kHz; the 1900-1930 GMT cast beamed to Africa was unheard.
- b. The seasonal frequency changes of Beijing International Service in Spanish were cruised and the new frequencies reported.
- c. New frequencies announced by Radio Moscow for its broadcasts in Spanish to Chile were confirmed.
- d. It was confirmed that the bureau's ROSET cannot receive the new Venezuelan Television "Televen Canal 10" which Panama Bureau had reported on the 27.5W Intelsat.

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C. Communications

- 1. On 17 December Embassy GSO Maintenance changed a communication cable between the telephone exchange and the FBIS office, necessitating a 5.5-hour communication outage.
- 2. From 24 to 28 December the bureau experienced garbling of incoming traffic, after Embassy GSO Maintenance personnel and local power company technicians installed a new connector between the local 220-volt service and the Embassy's 110-volt circuit. The garbling occurred when the power exceeded 115 volts. A readjustment was made on 31 December following bureau's expression of concern.

D. <u>Technical</u>

1. The cruising monitor's receiver was connected to the WJ software installed in the technicians' Victor PC to allow remote tuning via computer.

II. ADMINISTRATION

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Monitor returned to bureau on 23 December following a mutually beneficial month-long TDY at the bureau in Swaziland.

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B. Building and Grounds

Remodeling of the Embassy annex that houses FBIS began this month. The work so far has been carried out literally at our doorstep, forcing bureau personnel to use a circuitous route, a temporary stairway, and a bit of patience when approaching the office.

III. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

A. Bureau personnel celebrated Christmas with a potluck lunch on Friday, 23 December. Employees' spouses joined the festivities, as did many special friends of the bureau, including the U.S ambassador to Paraguay, Timothy Towell.

Chief, FBIS Paraguay Bureau

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CC: Panama Bureau Key West Bureau